



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

to Philadelphia, and does not touch upon the subject of the third section of this act.

"It does not appear to have been submitted to the consideration of the Crown in 1705 (see Appendix I., Section II.), and in the editions of 1714, 1728 and 1742, it is marked 'repealed.' The minutes of the Assembly are missing from October 27, 1701, to May 24, 1704, and it is probable that this act was repealed by a resolution of the Assembly passed within that period, as was done on October 17, 1701, in the cases of Chapters 76 and 77."

Nor does this history of each act include all the relating material, for over a hundred pages of appendices are added, made up of extracts from the Journal of the Board of Trade, Orders in Council, opinions of the royal attorney-general, minutes of the Provincial Council, letters of the royal governors, and other material of the greatest possible value for a thorough understanding of the colony laws.

A survey of the statutes reveals little which makes Pennsylvania distinctive from her sister colonies, if we except the act granting liberty of conscience to all Trinitarians, and another taxing the importation of negroes, originally enacted at the rate of forty shillings the poll, but quickly raised to twenty pounds, equivalent then to a prohibition, though even Quaker altruism was forced to throw a sop to the commercial classes by permitting the importation of negroes in bond, so as to leave to Philadelphia its share of the slave trade. Otherwise the laws are typical of the times rather than of the province; measures repressing duelling, swearing, Sabbath-breaking, health-drinking and most forms of amusements being noticeable, together with the economic cure-all of new ratios for coins, and the inevitable tender laws which always followed in its footsteps. It is interesting to note that a favorite form of tax was the poll-tax, which otherwise, except in New England, was always an unpopular form of collecting money, suggesting a possible relation between the greater democracy of those especial colonies and the tax nowadays considered the reverse of democratic.¹

PAUL LEICESTER FORD.

History of Proprietary Government in Pennsylvania. By WILLIAM ROBERT SHEPHERD, Ph.D. [Studies in History, Economics and Public Law, Columbia University, Vol. VI.] (New York. 1896. Pp. iv, 601.)

WE have here an elaborate study of the proprietary system which existed in Pennsylvania from the grant to William Penn, in March, 1680-81, to the overthrow of the royal control and colonial organization, in July, 1776. The designation "proprietary government" is to some extent misleading; strictly speaking, there never was in Pennsylvania any real government by a proprietor, unless we choose to except the two periods of two years each which Penn spent on the soil, 1682 to 1684

¹ Vol. III. (1712-1724) has also appeared.

and 1699 to 1701. His personal influence was such that he then practically ruled the little community, and was a governor in fact as well as in name. In the remaining ninety-one years Pennsylvania was chiefly controlled by its elective assembly, with such checks and interruptions as the crown inclined, and the deputies of the proprietors were able, to apply.

The great value of Dr. Shepherd's large book lies in its careful study of the Penn manuscripts in the collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. Some of these "relate to the settlement of Pennsylvania and to the founder of the province," but "the greater portion is composed of the correspondence of the descendants of William Penn with the deputy governors and with their agents in Pennsylvania from 1729 to 1775." These manuscripts, most of which were acquired by the society in 1870, through a purchase made in London, are arranged in eighty-seven large volumes, "and sufficient remain unbound to make one hundred volumes when the arrangement is complete." "Much has yet to be done," Dr. Shepherd states, "before the collection will be properly accessible to the historical student." It is in view of this absence of completed arrangement, and of the great bulk of the materials, that we must award so much credit to the courage, persistency and intelligence with which Mr. Shepherd has attacked and—fairly—mastered them. It is not probable that any other one person, living or dead, has ever read so many of these manuscripts, and it must remain doubtful when anyone else will address himself to so serious a task.

The contents of the manuscripts, to which we are thus afforded a fairly complete and satisfactory clew, are interesting and valuable, though we may not assign them so great importance as does Dr. Shepherd. The period after 1729, when the three surviving sons of William Penn, John, Thomas and Richard, became established in their inheritance as "the Young Proprietaries," down to the cataclysm of the Revolution, is the period in which the proprietary control of the colony was ebbing away, and the letters written by the Penns, mostly by Thomas, and by their Pennsylvania correspondents, are in no small measure controversial. They cannot be taken without reserve. They require to be read in comparison with other documentary evidence, and in the light of circumstances concerning which we are otherwise well informed. Perhaps it may be said that in his estimate of Thomas Penn's relations to the colony, and to persons and events in its history, Dr. Shepherd gives a somewhat undue weight to Thomas's own representations. It is more than likely that in native rectitude of statement he was not inferior to Benjamin Franklin, or Provost Smith, or Joseph Galloway, but where their written averments differ widely, as is so frequently the case, it is obviously imprudent to follow any one of them implicitly.

The book is by no means merely a summary of this correspondence between 1729 and 1775. It presents a view of the whole proprietary period, as its title states, and between 1681 and 1729 it uses the materials, manuscript and printed, which are available for such a study. It

thus becomes practically a history of Pennsylvania down to 1776, and the author is compelled to pass judgment upon many obscure and doubtful questions. Some of these judgments are judicious and helpful; others will be disputed. The account of the period before 1729 is marred by statements which an unfriendly critic would make the occasion for serious complaint, and as the book will be, as it ought to be, an authority for future consultation, it is necessary to suggest some of them, though it is impossible here to do more than introduce the subject.

In the sketch of the early settlement, the description of the location and plan of Philadelphia is misleading. It is explicitly stated (p. 20) that "the commissioner," (there were three) sent out in the autumn of 1681 to locate the city, "did nothing but explore the country till the arrival of Penn in October, 1682." Undoubtedly the site was chosen by Markham and the commissioners, in 1681, was then surveyed by Fairman, and was later plotted by Holme, so that by the summer of 1682, several months before Penn's arrival, its location was settled, and its plan known. There are passages in the description of the Swedish and Dutch occupation which are not clearly correct, but space cannot be taken here to discuss them. In the account of the Indians, the opening paragraph (p. 94) is very confused. It makes the statement that the hunting-ground of the Delawares—the Lenápé—was "from the sources of the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers, southward to the Lehigh hills, and westward far beyond the Susquehanna." This assigns them a large part of the region of the Iroquois, their enemies and oppressors, in New York and northern Pennsylvania, and excludes them from the place in which they were most securely seated, along the Delaware valley south from the Lehigh hills—the Blue Mountains—to the sea. It is curious to note that in his discussion of the Indian question Dr. Shepherd seems to have made no use of Charles Thomson's valuable, if not invaluable, *Enquiry into the Causes of the Alienation of the Delaware and Shawanese Indians*. The allusion (p. 114) to the motives which caused the organization of the "Friendly Association," in 1756, is unfair, and supported by no testimony within my knowledge except that of persons who coveted the Indians' lands.

The nature of the subject necessarily involves a good deal of attention to the Friends or "Quakers." Penn's connection with them, and his lofty desire to make here the "holy experiment" of a community which should maintain the Christian rule of peace, creates a situation in which it is impossible to write Pennsylvania history without discussing the Friends, and their social and political variation from other classes of people. In this discussion Dr. Shepherd is in the main fair, though he sometimes follows the lead of their enemies, as in charging them (p. 533) with "unreasonable behavior in clinging to their seats" in the assembly; with being (p. 557) "fond of political power;" with being (p. 548) "too fond of power to give to the charter anything but the narrowest construction," and with having (p. 551) "stubbornly held fast to their political control." Discrediting some of Franklin's exaggerations

(e. g., his story of the proprietaries' wealth), in the partisan *Historical Review*, he yet follows him in other statements not less unsound. Confidence is given in several places to his quips and jokes, his egotistical personal narratives, and his averments and arguments made to serve a temporary controversial purpose. It may be noted at this point that the statement (p. 351) that "among the many tenets of the Quakers, the one which concerned the taking of an oath was probably the most prominent," is not doing justice to Dr. Shepherd's own acquaintance with the Friends; relatively, this "testimony" was a minor one, though in their troubles over the administration of the government their enemies made it play an important part.

On page 324 it is stated that the people of Delaware were (about the period of the separation from Pennsylvania, 1704) "for the most part of Dutch and Swedish parentage." This could be fairly said only of Newcastle county; Kent and Sussex, especially the latter, were and long remained strongly of English blood. On page 545 is given a list of the "German religious sects," whose members were emigrants to Pennsylvania before 1755, in which the Lutherans and German Reformed, who formed probably the majority, are not mentioned.

HOWARD M. JENKINS.

The Literary History of the American Revolution, 1763-1783. By MOSES COIT TYLER, Professor of American History in Cornell University. Vol. I., 1763-1776. (New York and London : G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1897. Pp. xxxi, 521).

ALTHOUGH the title does not announce it, the present work must really be considered not so much a distinct study, as a sequel to the *History of American Literature during the Colonial Time*, issued by the same author several years ago. It is true that the new book stands for itself and by itself, but a survey of the literature of the Revolution which passes over some of the leading writers with scarcely a reference, is either to be blamed as defective, or such omissions are to be explained by reference to an earlier work. In the present volume, the writings of Thomas Hutchinson find scarcely a mention, except for his *Strictures* on the Declaration of Independence, and three quotations from private letters serve to dismiss Franklin from consideration, though his famous *Examination* was the first political pamphlet which really broke through the colony boundaries. The explanation is, of course, that these and other writers had already been treated in the earlier work; but we think a note to this effect in the preface would, on the whole, have been worth the making.

Another point on which there is room for question is the neglect of a very essential class of writers. In the sense of an American literature produced on our own soil, no objection can be made to the omission of this class, but the title suggests no such distinction, and a *Literary History of the American Revolution* can scarcely be considered complete